

REMARKS

Objections to Drawings

The examiner's objections to the drawings is not understood nor is it understood why the examiner requires corrected drawing sheets to be submitted to avoid abandonment of the application.

The examiner contends that the drawings do not show a reference numeral "5" to identify the duct identified on page 4, line 10 of the description. The examiner is obviously incorrect, as the duct 5 is clearly shown in figure 4 of the drawings, above the numeral "3".

The examiner is requested to withdraw the objection to the drawings in view of the lack of a basis for such objection.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §112

Claims have been amended to overcome the examiner's objection under 35 U.S.C. §112. The amendments rearrange the original language of the claims to bring them more into conformity with customary English usage and U.S. claim format. The elements do not constitute narrowing amendments, as the scope of the claims has not been narrowed by the amendments.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims as currently presented avoid the examiner's objections under 35 U.S.C. §112.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §102

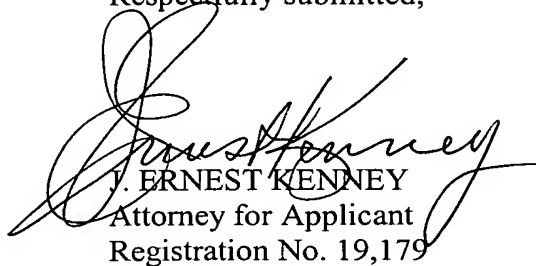
With respect to the rejection of claims 1-3 as anticipated by WO 03/080407 A1, the examiner is requested to note that the publication date of this document is **October 2, 2003**, which is later than the German priority date of May 6, 2003 claimed in this application. In support of Applicant's claim to the benefit of German priority Application 103 20 138.6 filed May 6, 2003 a verified translation of said application is submitted herewith as APPENDIX A, from which it will be clearly evident that the claims of this application are fully supported by the disclosure contained in the German priority application, a copy of which is appended hereto as APPENDIX B.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-3 as anticipated by WO 03/080407 A1 is requested due to the lack of standing of this document as effective prior art against the rejected claims.

The application having been placed fully in condition for allowance, passage of the application to issue is requested.

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Respectfully submitted,


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